Mum, tell me a story

THE GIANT RABBIT & OTHER STORIES

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The Giant Rabbit

One day, the rabbit got bored of living with his family as he was working all the time. He decided to look for another house where nobody would ask him to work. He walked in the forest. The fox saw him. He wanted to eat him but he was too thin. The fox thought for some time. He, then, invited the rabbit to share his house with him. The rabbit accepted and he lived with the fox. The fox used to bring the rabbit piles of grass to eat. The fox was watching the rabbit while his weight was increasing day after day. The rabbit became very fat. He became a giant rabbit. The fox was very happy and he came near the rabbit to eat him. When the rabbit saw his big teeth, he understood what he wanted. The rabbit told the fox that he wanted more grass.

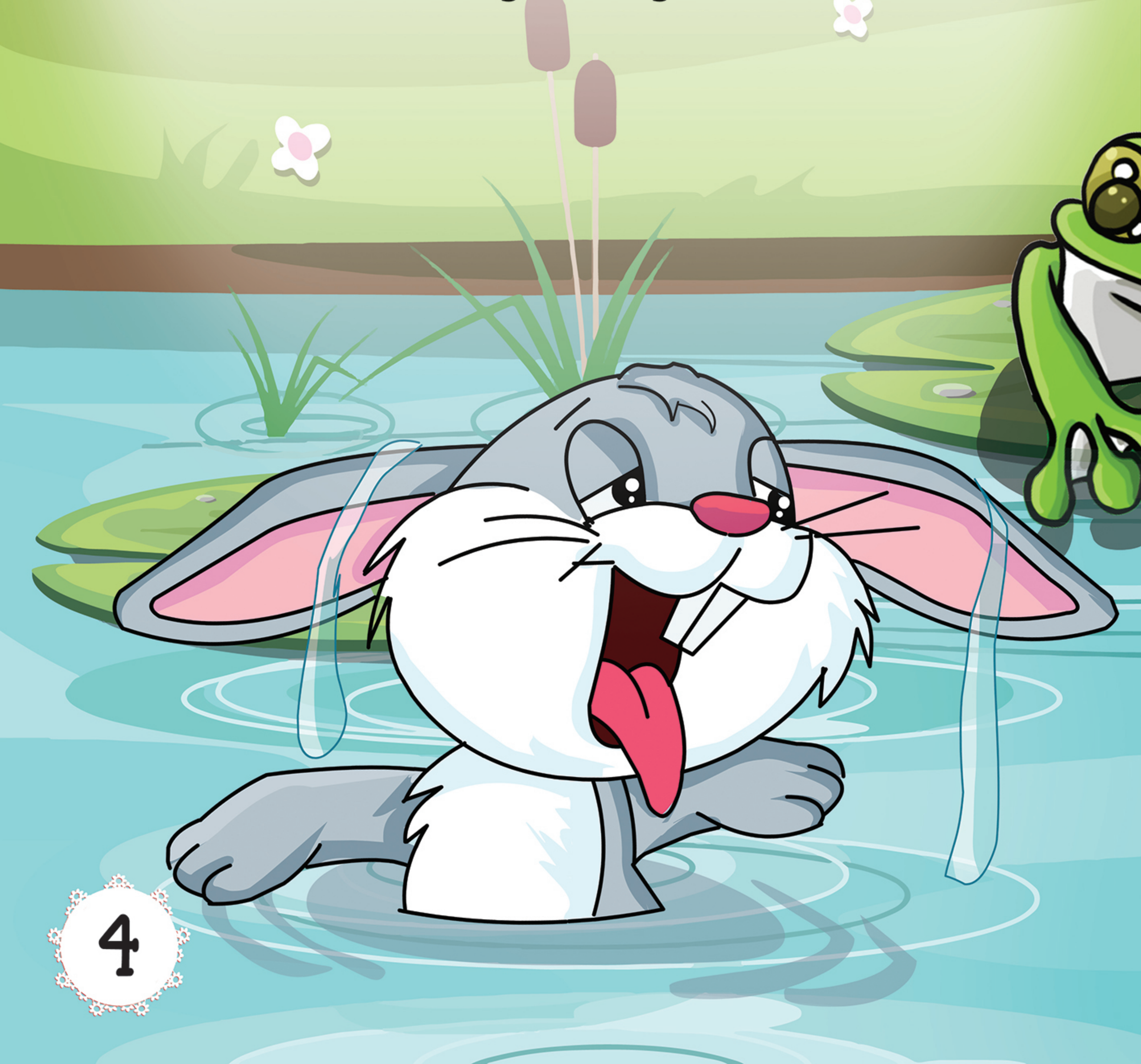


The fox hurried to bring the grass so that the rabbit's weight would increase more and more. The rabbit took the chance and he ran away. He returned to his family feeling sorry for what he did. He, happily, shared the house and the work with them.



The Vain Rabbit

The little rabbit was living on the farm with the other animals and birds. He was always teasing them. He boasted about being faster than them and about beating them all in the running race. All animals and birds were angry from him. They decided not to play with him but the rabbit didn't care. He played and ran alone until he reached the lake. He saw the frogs racing.



He came near them and told them vainly that he was faster than them. The frogs became angry. They challenged him to come and race with them. Without thinking, the rabbit jumped into the lake. The lake was big. He fell in the middle of the lake and was about to drown. The rabbit cried out for help. All the animals and birds hurried to help him. The rabbit thanked them. He knew his mistake and he was never vain again.



Farfur, The Naughty Mouse

Farfur was a naughty mouse. He liked playing very much. His sister, farfura, always warned him against the bad results of his naughtiness. Farfur didn't pay attention to her warning. He usually put himself into danger. One day, Farfur and Farfura were playing together. Their mother was preparing lunch so Farfura went to help her. Farfur took the chance and went out without telling anybody. He found himself in a big room and he saw a yummy big piece of cheese in front of him. He hurried quickly towards the piece of cheese. He forgot his parents' warning not to touch anything. He held out his hand to take the piece of cheese. Suddenly his hand was caught in the mouse trap. He cried out loudly. His family came quickly and saved him. His hand remained hurting for a long time. Since then, he learned the lesson and never put himself into danger again.





The Stubborn Chick

The little chick was fond of going out to discover the world around him. He never paid attention to his mother's warning. She always advised him to remain with the rest of his brothers so as not to put himself into danger. One day, the chick went out alone. No one took notice of him. All animals and birds were advising him to return back home. He didn't pay attention to their advice. He went far. A big hungry cat saw him. She stood in his way and opened her mouth. The chick was frightened. He cried out asking for help but no one heard him. He ran quickly crying and the cat followed him.



He fell into a pond of mud. The cat left him and went away. He returned back home. His body was covered with mud. He was trembling from cold and fear. He learned not to go out alone again.



The Fox And The Goat

One day, the goat went to the meadows. She ate and jumped from one place to another. She went far from the rest of the flock. She didn't know how to go back. The fox was watching her. He wanted to take her far away to eat her. He came near her and talked to her in a soft voice. He was hiding his mouth with his hand so that the goat would not see his teeth. He told her that he knew the way to her house. The goat believed him and went with him. The fox was hiding his tail from the goat. On the way, the goat felt thirsty. She went to a nearby well to drink. She stood on its edge.



The fox went quickly after her. The goat saw the image of the fox in the water. She saw his teeth and tail. She knew that he was the fox. She thought for some time. She waited until he came near her. She turned her head to him and pushed him with her horns. The fox fell into the well the goat ran away to look for her family.



The Fisherman

Hemdan was a young fisherman. Every morning, he went out to catch some fish then he went to the market to sell the fish he caught. One day, he went out, as usual. He threw his net into the water and waited for a long time until his net caught a big fish. Hemdan was very happy. He took out the big fish and put it in his basket. Suddenly, Hemdan saw another fisherman crying. He knew that the fisherman had caught only a small fish and his children were hungry waiting for him. Hemdan smiled to him and gave him his big fish to feed his children. The fisherman was very happy. He thanked Hemdan and hurried to his family. Hemdan took the small fish and went back home. When Hemdan was washing the fish he found a lot of gold inside it. Hemdan was surprised and happy. He sold the gold. He bought a boat and a house. He became the chief fisherman; that was the reward of his good deed.





Noaman and Othman

Noaman and his friend, Othman, decided to go on a trade trip. So they collected all the money they both had and put it in a bag. On their way through the forest, they stopped to have some rest. Noam was very tired so he fell asleep. Othman's greed made him take the money bag and ran away. He didn't stop until he reached the sea shore. He got on the ship holding the money bag in his hands and jumping with happiness. Suddenly, the bag fell off his hands into the water. Othman kept crying and weeping. At the same time, Noaman woke up. He knew what Othman had done and he was very sad. On his way back to his town, He tripped over an iron ring buried under the ground. He pulled it and, to his surprise, he found a box full of gold. Noaman was very happy. He took the box back to his town and became very rich. Othman became poor and lived all his life feeling sorry for what he had done.





Glossary

The naughty mouse:

Mouse trap: a tool used to catch mice. The food which the mouse likes, cheese, is put inside it. When the mouse comes to eat it, the trap catches it inside.

The fox and the goat:

Well: a deep hole full of water. Its water comes from rain water which penetrates into the ground.

Meadow: a green place to which animals go to eat.

Flock of goats: a group of goats living together.

The stubborn chick:

Pond: a low land which is filled with water, when water is mixed with dust, mud is formed.

The fisherman:

Boat: used by fishermen to catch fish from the sea.

Basket: a bah made of straw.

The chief fisherman: the leader of the fishermen.

Noaman and Othman:

Ship: a big boat used to carry people and things in the sea.